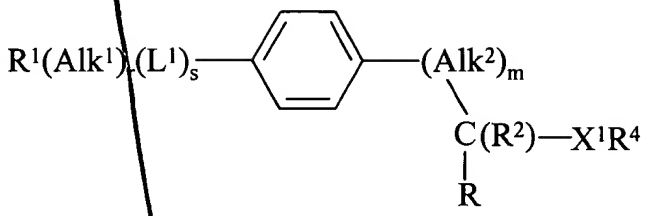


(1a)

wherein:

R is a carboxylic acid;

R^1 is an optionally substituted pyridyl group;

Alk^1 is an optionally substituted C_{1-6} aliphatic chain or C_{1-6} heteroaliphatic chain containing one, two, three or four heteroatoms or heteroatom-containing groups;

L^1 is a linker atom or group;

r and s, which may be the same or different, is each zero or an integer 1;

Alk^2 is a straight or branched alkylene chain;

m is zero or an integer 1;

R^2 is a hydrogen atom or a methyl group;

X^1 is a group selected from $-N(R^3)CO-$, (where R^3 is a hydrogen atom or a straight or branched alkyl group); $-N(R^3)SO_2-$, $-N(R^3)C(O)O-$ or $-N(R^3)CON(R^{3a})-$ (where R^{3a} is a hydrogen atom or a straight or branched alkyl group);

R^4 is an optionally substituted C_{1-6} aliphatic, C_{3-10} cycloaliphatic or C_{7-10} polycycloaliphatic group;

and the salts, solvates, hydrates and N-oxides thereof.

12. (amended once) A compound which is:

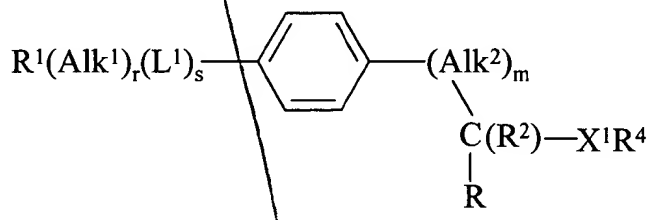
N-Isopropaloyl-*N*-(3,5-dichloroisonicotinoyl)-*L*-4-aminophenylalanine;

N-Cyclopropaloyl-*N*-(3,5-dichloroisonicotinoyl)-*L*-4-aminophenylalanine;

N-Acetyl-*N'*-(3,5-dichloroisonicotinoyl)-*L*-4-aminophenylalanine;

and the salts, solvates, hydrates and N-oxides thereof.

14. (amended once) A method for the prophylaxis or treatment of a disease or disorder involving inflammation in which the extravasation of leukocytes plays a role in a mammal, which comprises administering to a mammal suffering from such a disease or disorder a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of formula (1):



(1)

wherein:

R is a carboxylic acid (CO_2H);

R^1 is a hydrogen atom or a hydroxyl, straight or branched alkoxy or optionally substituted pyridyl group;

Alk^1 is an optionally substituted C_{1-6} aliphatic chain or C_{1-6} heteroaliphatic chain containing one, two, three or four heteroatoms or heteroatom-containing groups;

L^1 is a linker atom or group;

r and s, which may be the same or different, is each zero or an integer 1 provided that when r is zero R^1 is an optionally substituted pyridyl group;